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Media Release

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Delaware Department of Justice Sentencing Announcement

Wilmington, DE – The Delaware Department of Justice today announced sentences in the following criminal cases:

El Hajj Matthews, age 22 of Wilmington, pled guilty on October 21, 2008 in New Castle County Superior Court to Manslaughter and Possession of a Firearm During the Commission of a Felony.

On November 26, 2006, Matthews shot the victim who was standing near a person with whom Matthews had previous conflicts. The victim died several months later from his wounds. Matthews was arrested on December 7, 2006 on Attempted Murder by New Castle County Police and charged with Murder in July 2007, after the victim's death.

Matthews was sentenced today in New Castle County Superior Court by Judge Calvin Scott to 15 years in prison, followed by 6 months Work Release, and then 2 years of intensive Probation.

This case was prosecuted by Deputy Attorney General Colleen Norris.

Andre Cannon, age 22 of Bridgeville, pled guilty on November 10, 2008 in Sussex County Superior Court to Manslaughter and Possession of a Destructive Weapon.

On January 6, 2008, Cannon was at his residence with the victim. During a dispute, Cannon shot the victim in the head. He was arrested by the Delaware State Police immediately following the incident.

Cannon was sentenced today in Sussex County Superior Court by Judge E. Scott Bradley to 10 years in prison, followed by 1 year Home Confinement, and then 18 months of intensive Probation.

This case was prosecuted by Deputy Attorney General Paula Ryan.

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